

Federal Management Regulation

§ 102-118.295

§ 102-118.270 Must my agency establish a prepayment audit program?

Yes, under 31 U.S.C. 3726, your agency is required to establish a prepayment audit program. Your agency must send a preliminary copy of your prepayment audit program to: General Services Administration, Office of Travel, Transportation and Asset Management (MT), 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405.

[74 FR 30476, June 26, 2009]

§ 102-118.275 What must my agency consider when designing and implementing a prepayment audit program?

(a) As shown in § 102-118.45, the manner in which your agency orders transportation services determines how and by whom the bill for those services will be presented. Each method of ordering transportation and transportation services may require a different kind of prepayment audit.

Your agency's prepayment audit program must consider all of the methods that you use to order and pay for transportation services. With each method of ordering transportation services, your agency should ensure that each TSP bill or employee travel voucher contains enough information for the prepayment audit to determine which contract or rate tender is used and that the type and quantity of any additional services are clearly delineated.

(b) For transportation payments made through cost reimbursable contracts, the agency must include a statement in the contract that the contractor shall submit to the address identified for prepayment audit, transportation documents which show that the United States will assume freight charges that were paid by the contractor.

(c) Cost reimbursable contractors shall only submit for audit bills of lading with freight shipment charges exceeding \$100.00. Bills under \$100.00 shall be retained on-site by the contractor and made available for on-site audits.

[69 FR 57619, Sept. 24, 2004]

§ 102-118.280 What advantages does the prepayment audit offer my agency?

Prepayment auditing will allow your agency to detect and eliminate billing errors before payment and will eliminate the time and cost of recovering agency overpayments.

§ 102-118.285 What options for performing a prepayment audit does my agency have?

Your agency may perform a prepayment audit by:

- (a) Creating an internal prepayment audit program;
- (b) Contracting directly with a prepayment audit service provider; or
- (c) Using the services of a prepayment audit contractor under GSA's multiple award schedule covering audit and financial management services.

NOTE TO § 102-118.285: Either of the choices in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of this section might include contracts with charge card companies that provide prepayment audit services.

§ 102-118.290 Must every electronic and paper transportation bill undergo a prepayment audit?

Yes, all transportation bills and payments must undergo a prepayment audit unless your agency's prepayment audit program uses a statistical sampling technique of the bills or the Administrator of General Services grants a specific waiver from the prepayment audit requirement. If your agency chooses to use statistical sampling, all bills must be at or below the Comptroller General specified limit of \$2,500.00 (31 U.S.C. 3521(b) and U.S. Government Accountability Office Policy and Procedures Manual Chapter 7, obtainable from:

U.S. Government Accountability Office
P.O. Box 6015
Gaithersburg, MD 20884-6015
<http://www.gao.gov>

[65 FR 24569, Apr. 26, 2000, as amended at 74 FR 30476, June 26, 2009]

§ 102-118.295 What are the limited exceptions to every bill undergoing a prepayment audit?

The limited exceptions to bills undergoing a prepayment audit are those bills subject to a waiver from GSA

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(which may include bills determined to be below your agency's threshold). The waiver to prepayment audit requirements may be for bills, mode or modes of transportation or for an agency or subagency.

§ 102-118.300 How does my agency fund its prepayment audit program?

Your agency must pay for the prepayment audit from those funds appropriated for transportation services.

§ 102-118.305 Must my agency notify the TSP of any adjustment to the TSP's bill?

Yes, your agency must notify the TSP of any adjustment to the TSP's bill either electronically or in writing within 7 days of receipt of the bill. This notice must refer to the TSP's bill number, agency name, taxpayer identification number, standard carrier alpha code, document reference number, amount billed, amount paid, payment voucher number, complete tender or tariff authority, including item or section number.

§ 102-118.310 Must my agency prepayment audit program establish appeal procedures whereby a TSP may appeal any reduction in the amount billed?

Yes, your agency must establish an appeal process that directs TSP appeals to an agency official who is able to provide adequate consideration and review of the circumstances of the claim. Your agency must complete the review of the appeal within 30 days.

§ 102-118.315 What must my agency do if the TSP disputes the findings and my agency cannot resolve the dispute?

(a) If your agency is unable to resolve the disputed amount with the TSP, your agency should forward all relevant documents including a complete billing history, and the appropriation or fund charged, to: General Services Administration, Transportation Audit Division (QMCA), Crystal Plaza 4, Room 300, 2200 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, www.gsa.gov/transaudits.

(b) The GSA Audit Division will review the appeal of an agency's final, full or partial denial of a claim and

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issue a decision. A TSP must submit claims within 3 years under the guidelines established in § 102-118.460.

[65 FR 24569, Apr. 26, 2000, as amended at 69 FR 57620, Sept. 24, 2004; 74 FR 30475, June 26, 2009]

§ 102-118.320 What information must be on transportation bills that have completed my agency's prepayment audit?

(a) The following information must be annotated on all transportation bills that have completed a prepayment audit:

- (1) The date received from a TSP;
- (2) A TSP's bill number;
- (3) Your agency name;
- (4) A Document Reference Number (DRN);
- (5) The amount billed;
- (6) The amount paid;
- (7) The payment voucher number;
- (8) Complete tender or tariff authority, including item or section number;
- (9) The TSP's taxpayer identification number (TIN);
- (10) The TSP's standard carrier alpha code (SCAC);
- (11) The auditor's authorization code or initials; and
- (12) A copy of any statement of difference sent to the TSP.

(b) Your agency can find added guidance in the "U.S. Government Freight Transportation—Handbook," obtainable from:

General Services Administration
Transportation Audit Division (QMCA)
Crystal Plaza 4, Room 300
2200 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202
www.gsa.gov/transaudits

[65 FR 24569, Apr. 26, 2000, as amended at 69 FR 57620, Sept. 24, 2004; 74 FR 30475, June 26, 2009]

MAINTAINING AN APPROVED PROGRAM

§ 102-118.325 Must I get approval for my agency's prepayment audit program?

Yes, your agency must get approval for your prepayment audit program. The highest level budget or financial official of each agency, such as the Chief Financial Officer, initially approves your agency's prepayment audit program. After internal agency approval, your agency submits the plan